



Music at Whittington Primary School



Whittington Curriculum Drivers

Inspired – Lessons are inspired by a range of genres of music from Fusion to Gospel. Also, we teach children about key composers and pieces of music building their cultural capital. Music has a prominent place in the curriculum. All children in Year 3 are given the opportunity to learn an instrument. There is balance of musical teaching and practical musical activities. Teachers work to develop a love and appreciation of music from different cultures and genres.

Articulate – Key words will be taught to the children such as ballad, chord and harmony. Children be expected to know and use the language accurately and talk as a musician. Children will be able to talk about different styles and express their own tastes, likes and dislikes articulately.

Ambitious – Children are taught to be musicians. A sound-before-symbol approach is used but scores are provided as an understanding of notation is introduced to the children.

Curious – Children will be curious to find out about different genres asking questions to deepen their knowledge. Developing a love of music and beginning to build up their own preferences in musical taste.

Excited – Singing is at the heart of all the musical learning engaging children with music. Playing instruments with the song to be learnt - tuned/un-tuned classroom percussion and an option to play any band instrument.

Knowledgeable – Children will learn about the background of different genres of music developing their knowledge of a wide range of genres and their influences. Additionally we teach children about significant composers through the use of 'Ten Pieces'. BBC Ten Pieces opens the world of classical music to 7-14 year olds.



Sequencing of Content

Our approach teaches musical concepts through a repetition-based approach to learning. Learning about the same musical concept through different musical activities enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills.

Our lessons teach strands of musical learning from Reception to Upper Key Stage 2 in an order, which plans opportunities to embed a deep learning, knowledge, understanding and skills.



Big Ideas

- Listening and Appraising
- Musical Activities
- Singing
- Playing instruments
- Improvisation
- Composition
- Performing

(Taken from Charanga Music)



Deepening Concepts

Over time, children can develop new musical skills and concepts, and re-visit established musical skills and concepts. Repeating a musical skill doesn't necessarily mean their progress is slowing down or their development is moving backwards! It's just shifting within the spiral. Mastery means both a deeper understanding of musical skills and concepts and learning something new.



Retrieval Practice

Each lesson incorporates games which recap the dimension of music: pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure and notation through repetition.

Skills and knowledge are built and revisited over units and year groups.

